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VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL

Shannon Breslin Tucson Electric Power 4350 E. Irvington Road Mail Stop DS315 Tucson, AZ 85702 Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

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Subject:

Unisource Energy Transmission Line Alignment in Rio Rico

Dear Ms. Breslin:

We have reviewed the Unisource Energy Services (UES) transmission line alignment plans as provided by UES. We understand the proposed alignments are as follows:

- 1.) The maps indicate the preferred alignment is immediately east of the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR). There is an existing electrical distribution line along this alignment. The vegetation along this alignment has already been disturbed for installation and maintenance of the existing line. The new transmission line would require the removal of additional vegetation but it would be less than would be required in an undisturbed area.
- 2.) An optional alignment is immediately west of the UPRR right-of-way. Some of this area contains large cottonwoods, a prominent feature on the Santa Cruz River Valley and an important asset to Santa Cruz County. As evidenced by the existing 115kV line, the vegetation within the alignment must be removed for installation and maintenance of the transmission line. The west alignment option would result in removing large stands of mature cottonwoods.

We recommend the alignment east of the UPRR which would require the least amount of existing vegetation be removed. If you have any questions, please call me at (305) 442-7000.

Sincerely,

Erie Finkelberg

Rio Rico Properties Inc.

cc: PK Fletcher, Sheila Vasquez, Liz Gutfahr